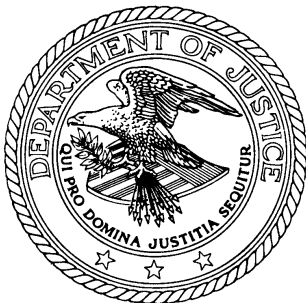


# NEWS RELEASE



*Office of the United States Attorney  
Western District of Louisiana*

**DONALD W. WASHINGTON**  
United States Attorney

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United States Courthouse • 300 Fannin Street, Suite 3201 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101-3068 • (318) 676-3600  
United States Courthouse • 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200 • Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7206 • (337) 262-6618

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**Contact: Donald W. Washington (337-262-6618)**  
**William J. Flanagan (318-676-3600)**

## **TWO PLEAD GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

*Two men in unrelated cases admit to downloading  
child pornography images from internet*

LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today that two defendants pleaded guilty in separate incidents in federal court before United States District Judge Patricia Minaldi to possession of child pornography.

**EDGAR JEROME FAULK**, age 54, from Starks, Louisiana, was indicted in September 2006. FAULK admitted in Court today that he possessed hundreds of images of hard-core child pornography on computer disks located in his residence. The images were downloaded from the internet, and included such hard-core images as prepubescent children being assaulted by adults.

In a separate matter, **MICHAEL ANTHONY WILLIAMS**, age 34, from Ragley, Louisiana, admitted during a plea hearing today that he visited numerous sites on the internet depicting child

pornography and saved some of the images to his home computer's hard drive. WILLIAMS was one of the individuals identified by the Cyber Crimes Center as having used his credit card to access a website depicting child pornography. Hundreds of images of prepubescent child pornography were found on WILLIAMS' home computer, including sadistic images. Some of the worst images involved very young children being sexually assaulted by adult men. WILLIAMS was indicted in June 2006.

Both cases were investigated by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and prosecuted under the Project Safe Childhood Initiative. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov/](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/).

Sentencing hearings for both defendants will be scheduled for a later date to be determined by the court. Each defendant faces a maximum of ten years federal imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$250,000, and a life term of supervised release.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Luke Walker.

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